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SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP 2833
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q65548

Yasumichi KUWAYAMA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/910,872

Group Art Unit: 2833

Confirmation No.: 4044

Examiner: Ross N. Gushi

Filed: April 24, 2001

For: ELECTRIC CONNECTING TERMINAL

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 4, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows on the accompanying pages.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS	2
REMARKS	5

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Application Number 09/910,872

Our Ref: Q65548
Art Unit: 2833

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An electric connecting terminal connected to a flat circuit body comprising:

a plane portion;

a pair of piercing portions erected from opposite side edges of the plane portion which penetrate through a coating and a conductor of the flat circuit body and tips thereof are folded in such a direction as to approach each other, wherein said piercing portions include a root portion and a distal portion, an internal surface of said distal portion being inclined with respect to an internal surface of said root portion so that said distal portion is tapered.

Claim 2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electric connecting terminal according to claim 1, wherein an external surface opposed to the internal surface of each piercing portion is provided with a taper surface for gradually reducing the thickness of the piercing portion.

Claim 3. (CANCELLED)

Claim 4. (CANCELLED)

Claim 5. (CANCELLED)

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Application Number 09/910,872

Our Ref: Q65548
Art Unit: 2833

Claim 6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An electric connecting terminal connected to a flat circuit body comprising:

a plane portion; and

a pair of piercing portions erected from opposite side edges of the plane portion which penetrate through a coating and a conductor of the flat circuit body and are adapted to be folded in such a direction as to approach each other, said edges extending in a longitudinal direction of said terminal each of the piercing portions including:

a first portion, one end of the first portion being connected to the edge of the plane portion, and

a second portion connected to the other end of the first portion including a tip and a taper surface for gradually reducing a thickness of the second portion,

wherein the pair of the taper surfaces face each other over the plane portion, wherein the first portion has an approximately constant width in said longitudinal direction.

Claim 7. (ORIGINAL) The electric connecting terminal according to claim 6, wherein a width of the second portion becomes gradually narrow toward the tip thereof.

Claim 8. (CANCELLED)

Claim 9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electric connecting terminal according to claim 6, wherein a width of the second portion becomes gradually narrow toward the tip thereof.

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Application Number 09/910,872

Our Ref: Q65548
Art Unit: 2833

Claim 10. (ORIGINAL) The electric connecting terminal according to claim 6, wherein the second portion includes the taper surfaces on opposite sides thereof.